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April 24, 2017

From: George S. Massengale  
To: Ron Menor, Chair Honolulu City Council  
Date: April 26, 2017 at 10:00 A.M.  
Re: Bill 47, Relating to Accessory Dwelling Units

### Testimony in Support

Chair Manor, Vice Chair Anderson and members of the City Council. I am here today on behalf of Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association and our two Habitat affiliates on Oahu, Honolulu and Leeward, to offer our support on Bill 47. This bill would extend the repeal date in Ordinance 16-19 until June 20, 2020.

As many of the council members are aware Hawaii Habitat for Humanity in partnership with The Appleseed Center for Law & Equal Justice constructed an Accessory Dwelling Unit on State Capitol Grounds at the beginning of this month. The goal was to actually show residents on Oahu who may be interested in building an ADU on their property a typical example of what an ADU looks like. In the ADU itself was information regarding the city's permitting process, and examples of other ADU models. The ADU was staffed with Habitat and Appleseed staff and volunteers who fielded many questions.

We would note for the council that visits to the ADU averaged 350 daily for the two-week period the unit was on site. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive, suggesting much interest within the community and that many existing homeowners are seriously considering building an ADU on their property.

We believe that extending the ADU sunset date is a very practical and prudent step. It would allow existing homeowners additional time to look at various ADU model options and select the one best suited for their property.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony here today.

Respectfully,

George S. Massengale  
Director, Community Engagement

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